

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

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SUBJECT: OFFICE SPACE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION

1. AT THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 14,1976. MES REPRESENTATIVE AND SUB DIRECTOR GENERAL OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, JUAN DE LUIS CAMBLOR, GAVE INFORMAL NOTICE TO THE BOARD THAT THE SPACE NOW OCCUPIED RENT FREE BY THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION AND THE NMA EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL OPERATIONS WOULD BE RECLAIMED FOR THE NATIONAL LIBRARY IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE COMMISSION HAS OCCUPIED THIS SPACE OF THE MES FOR THE PART 17 YEARS.

2. BOTH THE MFA AND THE EMBASSY CONSIDER THIS ANNOUNCEMENT TO HAVE THE FORCE OF A FORMAL NOTICE TO SEEK NEW QUARTERS, AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, DIR GEN OF CULTURAL RELATIONS MFA AND THE PAO, STATED THEIR READINESS TO INSTITUTE SEARCH FOR NEW QUARTERS WITH THE SAME RENT FREE TERMS IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.

3. ON JULY 20,1976 THE MES INVITED THE MFA/EMBASSY REPS TO INSPECT SPACE IN ONE OF ITS BUILDINGS, 83 85 CARTAGENA, SOME TEN MINUTES FROM THE EMBASSY IN A AREA LESS CONGESTED THOUGH LESS ATTRACTIVE THAN THE PRESENT NATIONAL LIBRARY SITE. THE SPACE CONSISTED OF A FIRST FLOOR AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 165 PLUS A BOARD MEETING ROOM OF 49 METERS ON THE THIRD FLOOR, ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY FIVE METERS IS LESS THAN WHAT IS PRESENTLY AT DISPOSAL OF THE COMMISSION AND NMA CULTURAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM. GIVEN THE POSSIBILITY OF AUGMENTATION OF THE NMA OPERATIONS, THIS SPACE WAS DEEMED INADEQUATE AND
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FURTHER CONSIDERATION DECLINED.

4. LATER IN THE WEEK MES REP, CAMBLOR PROPOSED AN ALTERNATE SPACE IN THE SAME NEW BUILDING. ON JULY 27 MFA EMBASY REPS VISITED THIS NEW SPACE AND FOUND IT A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT OVER ORIGINAL OFFER. CONSISTS OF SOME 290 SQUARE METERS INCLUDING BOARD ROOM ALL ON THE SAME FLOOR (THIRD). SPACE IS NEW, BRIGHT WELL LIGHTED AIR CONDITIONED, MODULAR FOR EASE OF APRTIONING ANF HAS ALL OF THE NECESSARY SERVICES. IT WOULD BE RENT FREE.

5. THE FACT THE COMMISSION AND ITS NMQ ADMINITRATIVE FUNCTIONS WOULD OPERATE UNDER THE ROOF OF OTHER DEPENDENCIES OF THE MES SOME OF WHICH ARE ADMINISTERED BY OFFICIAL WITH PROJECT INTERESTS IN NMA CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL AREAS, IS A POINT OF CONCERN IN TAKING UP QUARTERS AT THIS LOCATION. MFA REP HAS NO PROBLEM WITH IT ASSUMING COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE OF OPERATION CAN BE MAINTAINED.

6. ON THE BASIS OF ADEQUACY OF SPACE FOR THE FUNCTIONS REQUIRED, THE EMBASSY FINDS THIS LOCATION ENTIRELY SUITABLE. IF PROVED RENT FREE AS PROMISED, THEN THE EMBASSY IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT OFFER IN CONCURRENCE WIT MFA.

7. NO DATE FOR ABANDONING PRESENT QUARTERS AHS BEEN FIXED. MES WISHES TO RECLAIM ITS PREMISES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WITH AUGUST BEING A SLOW MONTH WITH SPANISH OFFICIALS ON VACATION THE MOVING IS ESTIMATED FOR THE SECOND HALF OF SEPTMEBER.

8. THE GOS IS NOW SEEKING A SITE IN MADRID FOR THE US SPANISH COUNCIL OFFICES THAT WILL INCLUDE CONFERENCE ROOM SPACE FOR ALL JOINT COMMITTEES. THUS ELIMINATING NMA CONFERENCE ROOM NEEDS AT THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION QUARTERS. STABLER

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